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Snowshoe adventures
Read this week's Naturally Yours on pages 2 and 3.

Tourism Tales
Angelica Ingram writes from a new perspective as tourism manager on page 4.

Valentine's Day fun
See photos from Mostly Her's event on page 9.

The Minden Kin Club's ice races got off to a sunny start in January. The races are located at the Minden Fairgrounds each weekend, weather permitting. /TIM YANO Special to *County Life*

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We need to make space for new models that are arriving soon!
See our selection of floor models in store.
While stock lasts.

Naturally Yours

Winter Serenity

RICK WHITTEKER
Special to *County Life*

Looking up at the faint halo filtering through the mid-altitude clouds, a light snow gently falls on my face like a cool mist of baby powder. The air is cold and still, the snow pristine and fluffy, a perfect day to strap on a pair of snowshoes and explore the forest trails at Glebe Park.

Moving amongst the snow-laden boughs and rolling terrain at Glebe Park, it is difficult to rush. The calmness of the landscape wills me to stop, take a deep breath and reflect on the natural beauty followed by a backwards flop, spread-eagle style, into the soft, down duvet of snow. Everyone enjoys the glory of deep, fresh snow in different ways!

Located at the top of Head Lake, northwest of Haliburton on Museum Road, the Glebe Park snowshoe trails are extensive and well marked. The trail head starts behind the Haliburton Highlands Museum and is easy to find. Soon greeted by a large trail map with "You Are Here" red star, this reassuring map with a different red star location pops up at various locations along the trail.

Meandering, dipping and climbing, the trail terrain mirrors the typical landscape of the Haliburton Highlands. Along the way I meet three other snowshoers, their smiles reaching their eyes confirming they were enjoying themselves as much as I am. These snowshoers were using ski poles, a good idea as they help on steeper terrain, add more stability and increase the upper body workout of this winter exercise.

And exercise it is. Snowshoeing burns the calories due to the extra weight on your feet, the slippery surface and the tendency to carry some extra snow on your shoes with every step. The great effort magnifier is if you are snowshoeing off the beaten track. It is much more tiring but a wonderful way to explore forested and wetland areas normally hard to access in the snow free seasons.

Off trail snowshoeing is more tiring but very rewarding. /Photos by Rick Whitteker

Snowshoes Available to Borrow

The Haliburton Highlands Museum has snowshoes to borrow. They have two different styles in all sizes, including snowshoes for children. The snowshoes are available any time the museum is open, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Mondays. Donations are appreciated.

It is wise to snowshoe on colder days as the snow is lighter, the air feels fresher and you will want to keep moving to stay warm. I find nothing more endorphin inducing than outdoor winter exercise… that feeling of moving under your own power, the internal furnace slowly radiating heat to all extremities.

With about seven kilometers of trails, including the Sculpture Forest Trail across the road from the museum, the Glebe Park snowshoe trails have several loops giving options to visitors to find a route that matches their time and energy without needing to retrace their steps. All the trails are marked with different coloured paint matching the colours on the map making navigation easy.

I found the orange and blue loops to have a diverse mix of tree species. Yellow birches stand out like golden sentinels in a sea of foam. Dark-barked black cherry add contrast, but it is the eastern hemlock trees that really stand out.

Deep green and ladened with snow, some branches are bent over with enough weight to create tunnels and wind shelters to linger under. Snowshoers are not the only ones resting under these hemlocks. White-tailed deer use Glebe Park as a natural refuge browsing on hemlock twigs, a natural winter food unlike the garden variety food on the menu in the village. I even saw a

see page 3

County Life

The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:

Foodland *
Haliburton Highlands Real Estate
Home Hardware *
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Rexall *
Shoppers Drug Mart Haliburton *
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For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in County Life please contact Melissa Armstrong at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

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Naturally Yours

Stacked polypores topped with a frosting of snow grow on a dead tree.

from page 2

large boulder with hoofprints up the side of it, suggesting some form of deer yoga. Cold, clean air can spark the human imagination!

Compared to hiking, snowshoeing allows more time to take in the surroundings while walking, like noticing the unique way that faint sunlight falls across smooth, blanketed surfaces creating subtle hues of colour. Polypores or bracket fungi hold the snow on the side of a dead tree like a stack of pancakes topped with whipped cream. Standing out in this white, leafless landscape are beech saplings with their crusty, brown leaves tenaciously clinging to smooth branches.

Minimal equipment, no lift ticket, trail pass or skill is required to snowshoe. Once you get accustomed to walking with big feet, it is easy to relax and enjoy your time on the trails. Just strap on the shoes and go… only you, the trail and fresh air, the perfect remedy to declutter and energize the mind and body during this season normally associated with southern migration or hunkering down indoors.

Hemlock boughs ladened with snow create tunnels and wind shelters on the trail.

Glebe Park
Snowshoe Trails
LEGEND
UPPER TRAILS
LOWER TRAILS
YOU ARE HERE
On the Trail:
Please stay off of the ski trails (except for the shared trail in the Sculpture Forest)
There are no safety patrols. Some of the trails are used infrequently.
Please use caution – your safety is your responsibility.
Enjoy your snowshoe
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 911
College Parking address: 297 College Drive
Museum Parking address: 66 Museum Road
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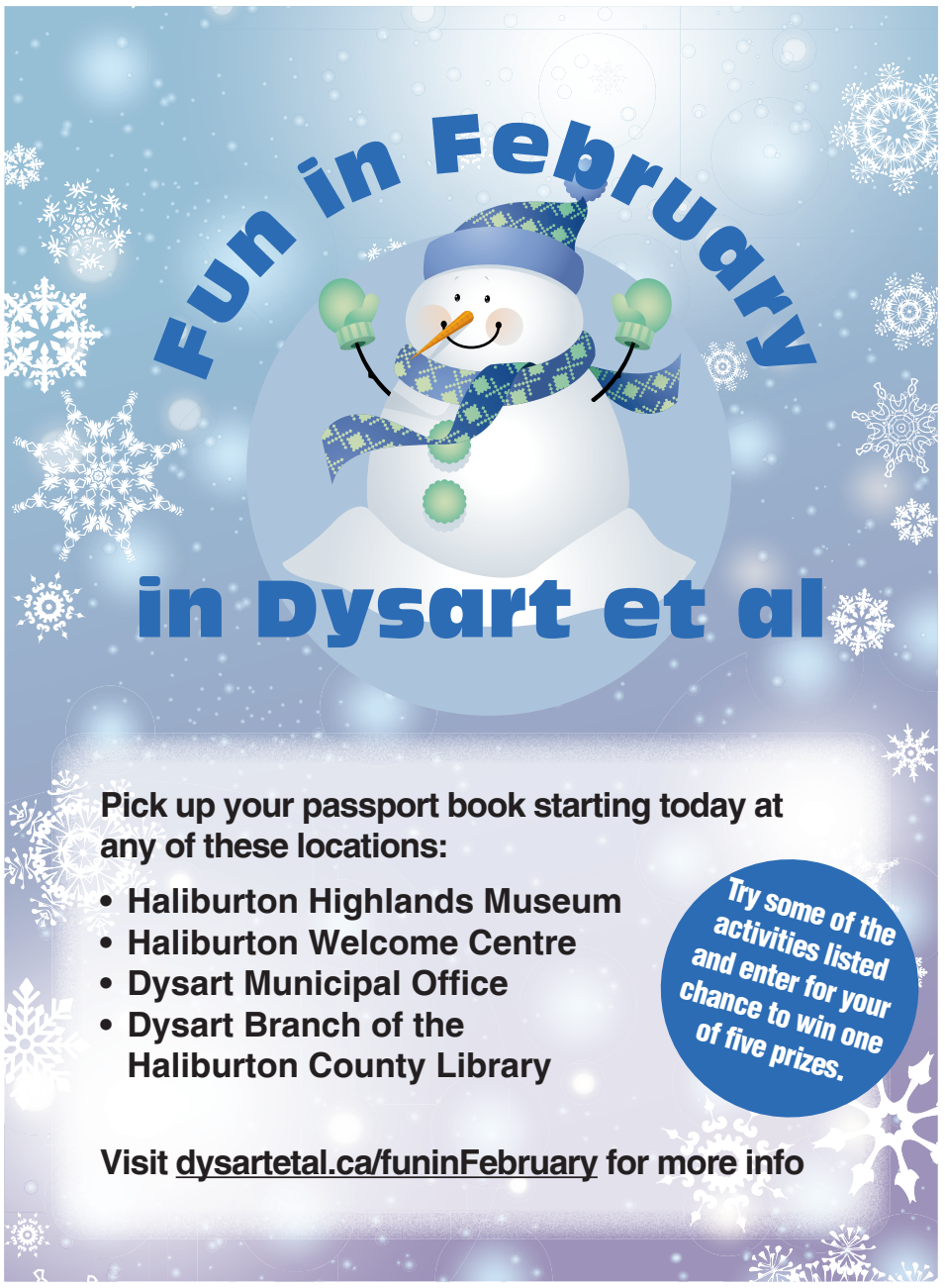
The map for Glebe Park Snowshoeing Trails is colour coded matching the colour of the markers on the trails.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• Haliburton Welcome Centre
• Dysart Municipal Office
• Dysart Branch of the Haliburton County Library
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Visit dysartetal.ca/funinFebruary for more info

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Tourism Tales from *My Haliburton Highlands*

Throughout life most people encounter many full circle moments and putting pen to (news)paper sure is one of them for me. It's been a minute since my words filled the pages of *The Haliburton Echo* and *Minden Times* and somehow it feels like I've never left.

During the past few years I have written columns on behalf of SIRCH Community Services and The Haliburton Business Improvement Area (BIA). However now it's time for me to put a new hat on and introduce myself as the new Tourism Manager for the County of Haliburton. We are gearing up for another busy year in the Haliburton Highlands and I hope to use this space to provide seasonal tourism updates with you and let you know what's happening.

Thank you to everyone who participated and volunteered in our annual Hike Haliburton Festival - Winter Edition that took place Feb. 3 and 4th! We saw 12 hikes take place across Haliburton County and there were 135 participants who registered, with 52 per cent of the registration/participants coming from outside of the Haliburton Highlands. These hikes are run by volunteers who selflessly give of their knowledge and time. Thank you to staff, especially Thom Lambert and Eric Casper, for once again ensuring the festival went off without a hitch!

Shifting now to an economic development lens, we want your input. The Province of Ontario is creating a Rural Economic Development Strategy and is seeking information to help guide the process. Some of the key questions being asked are:

/Photo by Thom Lambert

1) What is the most pressing economic obstacle or opportunity in your community or across rural Ontario? Why?

2) How can communities and government work together to improve local economies or better support local businesses?

3) What changes has your community experienced in the last few years that have presented new opportunities for economic growth? And how can the province help you take advantage of those opportunities?

There are multiple ways for you to submit your answers, including online, email or regular mail. More information can be found here: www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-rural-economic-development-strategy.

As we head into the Family Day long weekend there are so many exciting events and activities happening throughout the county. Some highlights include the annual Dorset Snowball on Saturday, Feb. 17th, art gallery exhibits at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Rails End Gallery (both of which feature local artists and students!), live music events, a Family Day Open House (also at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre), skiing, skating and so much more!

Check out listings from across My Haliburton Highlands by visiting: myhaliburtonhighlands.com/whats-happening/. Before you know it, the sweetness of Maple Syrup season will be here.

As always, we are open to hearing from you and what you have going on. Never hesitate to drop us an email at info@haliburtonhighlands.com or give us a call at 1-800-461-7677.

There is never a dull moment in the Haliburton Highlands and we are excited about that.

Take care and stay warm!

Submitted By Angelica Ingram,
County of Haliburton Tourism Manager

Canada's first electric vehicle battery plants.
Windsor and St. Thomas will soon be home to the first electric vehicle battery plants in the country.
It's happening here.
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Learning to love nature; offering outdoor skills to kids

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Staff

Learning the basics of being outdoors isn't something reserved for backwoods campers and adventure enthusiasts anymore.

At Abbey Gardens, they believe that instilling basic skills for survival from a young age can boost and support kids' confidence, development, and growth.

That's why they've started offering their Naturally Kids Outdoor Skills programming, which kicked off the weekend of Jan. 27 and is running until May.

"These programs are great opportunities for kids to explore the natural world around them," said Ashley McAllister, the director of operations at Abbey Gardens. "We want to be able to give them the tools to gain confidence, and maybe even find some new hobbies and skills along the way."

The programs are led by outdoor enthusiast Rick Whitteker, who brings years of experience in teaching, guiding, and developing outdoor education programs at both Fleming College, as well as locally-based courses and training. "We wanted to develop programs for kids that would give them that life experience to keep them safe in whatever they're doing," he said.

Each week is split into a different theme, with everything from trailside cooking on a stick stove, to tarps, knots, and making cordage. While Whitteker developed the programming with actual outdoor skill development in mind, he also incorporated the wonder and imagination of kids by including courses on geocaching, photo scavenger hunts, and compass usage; all while teaching participants how to survive in the wilderness.

The Naturally Kids Outdoor Skills programming is designed to teach kids the basics of outdoor navigation and survival, to allow them to feel safe and confident in the wilderness. /Photo submitted

"I think we have a great facility for this type of programming at Abbey Gardens," said McAllister. "There are tons of trails and mapped out regions of the property, but also lots of wooded areas that can offer the kids the feeling of really exploring the backwoods."

Parents can register their kids for all four sessions, which occur once a month until the spring, or they can hand-pick a specific session based on the interest of the child. The sessions run once a month until May, with the exception of a March session due to conflicts with March Break programming.

For Whitteker, offering programming for kids between the ages of 8 to 12 is an opportunity to continue to share his love of the outdoors, and his passion for fostering an inclusive environment for people of all ages in the great outdoors.

"The reason I'm in this business is to try to keep people interested in being outside, and to learn and feel comfortable, even if they're just camping with their parents," he said. "If they have a few skills, then they'll feel a lot more comfortable. They'll feel ready."

For more information on the Naturally Kids Outdoor Skills programming, or to register for upcoming programming, visit www.abbeygardens.ca.

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Send your letters to the editor to vivian@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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Family in all its forms

KATE BUTLER
Special to *County Life*

FOR FAMILY Day weekend, you may be planning on visiting with loved ones or making calls and sending messages to let people know that you're thinking of them.

The communication tools at our disposal today allow us to connect with ease, even when miles or sometimes continents separate us. I often find myself thinking of early settlers and the decisions they had to make, knowing the realities of both travel and communication in their era and that making a move to Haliburton County might take them far from family. In some cases, however, moving to Haliburton County offered settlers an opportunity to find or create families which suited them better.

One account which springs to mind is the rather dramatic tale of Thomas Stratton Moon and Jane Batchelor. Moon was the rent collector for his wealthy uncle, a prominent landowner in Wiltshire, England. In the course of his work, Moon met and fell in love with Jane, the daughter of one of his uncle's tenants. In a scene which seems as if it could have sprung from a period drama, the couple were told that they would only be given permission to marry if they agreed to leave England. The pair decided to emigrate, first settling in Woodstock, before eventually making their way up to Haliburton. The couple and their family became active members of the community, with Thomas serving several terms in local politics, both as a councillor and as Reeve. Thomas and Jane were also advocates for education, and five of their six daughters would eventually become teachers. One of their sons, Thomas Jr, was an avid amateur photographer and thanks to his interest, we have views of our community which might not have otherwise been captured - at least not so early in the village's history. Eventually, Thomas Sr's uncle (who had no children of his own) tried to persuade the family to return to England, so that his nephew could manage his business interests and properties. Thomas and Jane chose to stay right where they were, having found a community which suited them better, far from the more stratified social systems in which they'd both been brought up.

This different sort of community appealed to many others as well, such as local remittance man, Theophilus Bellairs. Though he may have come from a well-to-do or even aristocratic family, Bellairs was 'encouraged' by his family to come to Canada, with the promise of an allowance if he stayed here. In Haliburton, Bellairs found a home and a place which suited him and in 1891, he married a widow by the name of Mary Turnbull. Bellairs was, by all accounts, a bit of a character, but in Mary, he seems to have found a match that suited them both very well. Beyond that, he was also held in affection by the community at large.

While life in Haliburton County in decades past wasn't without its challenges, it was by and large, a community in which residents looked out for each other and sought to help their neighbours. Marriages brought links between local families, but in a small community, others could also easily feel like family. Yes, family may be blood relatives, but it can also be those we choose, including friends and neighbours who provide a listening ear or a helping hand when it's needed.

This Family Day weekend, I hope you get the chance to connect with those who warm your heart, whoever and wherever they may be!

Top 10 problems faced by old-time pirates in a modern world

THESE DAYS you don't tend to hear about old-time pirates anymore. Instead, you hear about modern pirates in motorboats with automatic weapons and rocket launchers. That's a shame and also the reason that the old school pirates no longer seem to be able to compete.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

Here are the top 10 other reasons:

1. Sailors on raided boats have cordless power tools that are problematic for peg legs.
2. Hook hand looks great for the ship but horrible when going through airport metal detector.
3. The phrase "Ho, ho, ho and a bottle of rum," no longer socially acceptable unless used as part of hip hop lyrics.
4. Have you seen the price of planks lately?
5. Young crew members doing too many social media posts using #piratelife.
6. Everyone now thinks your ship is a tourist attraction.
7. When you try to get firearms licences for dozens of 12-pounder cannons, the authorities get suspicious.
8. I don't care how careful you were burying your treasure, the CRA will eventually find it.
9. With all these hipsters, finding Blackbeard getting increasingly difficult.
10. Once you raise the skull and crossbones flag, people naturally assume you are an old guy with a new Harley.

Scavenging

Boulders of clouds, rolling across Sky,
blotting the lunar glow of Sun, in the aftermath of the storm,
a spectral stillness, shrouding the trail, as ice picks of Air prick my cheeks, the cold, burrowing into my bones,
deep, as the squirrel foraging in the Snow, its tail swishing in the Air, surrounded by giants of frozen trees,
icicles, tiny as tears, dangling from a few of their branches,
as I stand amongst them, watching the squirrel dig in the Snow,
maybe in the spot where it hid something in the fall, its paws shoveling through layers of Snow,
as my mittenless hands plunge into the warmth of my coat pockets,
fingering a wrapped square of chocolate I forgot was there.
I stare at the squirrel's bushy tail, the only other creature on the trail this morning,
christening the Snow that fell overnight, with its paw prints,
clambering down from its nest, where its family maybe still rests, curled in a heap of fur, to forage in the Snow.
I glance up at all the naked trees, their limbs, cloaked in Snow,
counting all the nests I see, perched in crooks and elbows,
wondering how many squirrels can squish into a nest, and all the nests I don't see,
cloistered in the forest, amongst the maples and birches, all that fur, crammed into such a small space,
barely enough room to breathe, as I inhale Air, laced with the smell of fresh Snow,
watching the squirrel dart across the trail, clutching something round between its front paws,
as it streaks up the trunk of a tree, marveling at how it navigates the limbs and branches, climbing higher and higher,
'till it reaches a lopsided nest of old leaves, nestled in the elbow between trunk and limb, plunging inside,
still gripping the nut in its paws, the tip of its tail, the last thing I see, before it vanishes from sight,
the boulders of clouds, cracking, up in Sky, revealing the white pebble of Sun, pelting its lunar light onto Snow,
wondering whether the squirrels feel the cold, beneath their barrier of fur, their heartbeats blurring into each other,
as they curl into sleep beneath the silver blade of the sickle Moon, dangling in the blackness, amongst the stars.
I stare at the spot where the squirrel foraged in the Snow,
at the base of the trunk of a maple tree, leaving its imprint behind,
its paws, denting Snow, as it foraged for its family, so it could survive another winter of breathtaking cold,
my fingers squirming in my coat pocket, unwrapping the square of chocolate I forgot was there,
inhaling the sweetness, laced with crisp northern Air, savouring the taste as I clomp along the trail,
the cold, burrowing into my bones, quietly as a squirrel scavenging in the Snow.

By Sylvie Kalenda

Winter motorheads fuel Minden's economic engine

THOMAS SMITH
County Life Staff

Shaun de Jager, a driving instructor for 17 years, shows off safe winter handling skills as taught at the ILR Car Control School in Minden. /Photo submitted

"Mother nature is not kind to us this year," says Ian Law, owner of ILR Car Control School, "it sucks, mother nature was late to us, bringing winter. Luckily, Minden Kin Club did a great job building us the track we have now."

Ironically, the ILR Car Control School had to cancel their first teaching sessions due to the sudden arrival of a winter storm.

Law, owner and chief instructor of the ILR Car Control School, first started teaching vehicle handling in the late 1980s. With a background in competition racing, Law knew that he wanted to share his passion for petrol with others. The school first started introducing drivers to the exciting world of competitive racing. Soon enough, interested parents approached him to teach their children better vehicle control.

The winter driving school stemmed from Law's years of experience driving in the ice races in Minden, with Law even having won a few ice racing championships.

"The car control school grew out of a competitive driving school," explains Law, "what do race car driver's do in the winter time?" We come up here and they race cars on ice. That in itself, was another skill that was learned and developed."

"With ice racing, you quickly learn what does not work." says Law with a grin, "because you end up in the snow banks."

ILR Car Control School's winter driving course has become immensely popular with corporations throughout Ontario, with clients ranging from federal government groups to private corporations.

"We have always liked to point out the irony of us training the M.T.O," says Law, "what it boils down to is the M.T.O. saying to us we recognize the employees aren't safe enough with the license that we give them, so you need to make them a safer driver."

Law was proud to explain the Car Control School's financial impact on the local Minden economy. The school encourages their students to book their stays locally at places such as the Red Umbrella Inn and the Dominion Hotel. Within their classroom, Law pointed out the trays of food catered by the Dominion Hotel.

"We like the idea that we can contribute something to the local economy," says Law with a smile, "we rent the track from the Kin club, so they make money off of us there, we rent this facility from the community centre. I think when we sat down to examine roughly how much we left each year, it is around $80,000 to $100,000 in business. We all feel good that we can contribute in some way to Minden's economic engine."

The ILR Driving School employs around 20 instructors at their school, with several of the instructors being residents of Haliburton County.

The ILR Driving School greatly appreciates being able to use their track in Minden and would like to request that snowmobiles stick to the trails to avoid accidents with inexperienced winter drivers.

While corporate teaching provides the bread and butter of the ILR Driving School, they continue to offer winter driving instructions to the public.

"Drivers are not as good as they think they are," assures Law, "there is so much information for those to understand. The driver's beginner education course is the minimal education for driving."

With clients such as the Ministry of Transportation and the 407 ETR, Law is confident in the school's ability to provide a driving education of high quality. The school would like the public to know that there are opportunities for drivers to gain more skills with driving in winter conditions, a skill that is often overestimated, according to Law.

For those interested in taking a course with ILR Driving School, you can email Ian Law at ianlaw@carcontrolschool.com.

Dreaming of dance

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Staff

Dance should be for everyone.

That's why Skyline Dance Studio, located in the heart of Haliburton, launched their bursary program; to allow anyone who dreams of dancing to join in on the fun. "At Skyline, our mission is to create a family atmosphere where dancers of all ages feel safe to be who they are and express themselves creatively," said Allison Cox, the chair of the Skyline board.

Having opened their doors in October of 2022, Skyline works with seven instructors over the full season, and offers programs to over 200 local dancers. With registration increasing over 20 per cent since opening, it's clear that there was a drastic need for the programming in the county.

The studio offers both competitive and recreational classes in ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary, lyrical, acro, hip hop and musical theater. This year, they also added a "tumbling" class that mirrors exercises traditionally practiced in gymnastics classes.

For those under the age of five, Skyline runs ballet, jazz, and acro, plus "The Music Class", and Parent and Tot classes for ages one to four.

But the programming isn't just designed for kids. The studio also offers classes for adults and seniors, with regular pilates, tap classes for those 55 and up, and Zumba Gold classes for adults.

Skyline is a not-for-profit, and continues to rely heavily on the kindness and generosity of the community to stay afloat. They recognize that building a dance studio from scratch is no easy feat, and they continue to celebrate the community by means of thanks.

That's why they began to offer the bursary program; to find a way to give back to the community that they believe has held them up over the past year and a half.

"We believe each student has the ability to increase their physical, emotional, and intellectual

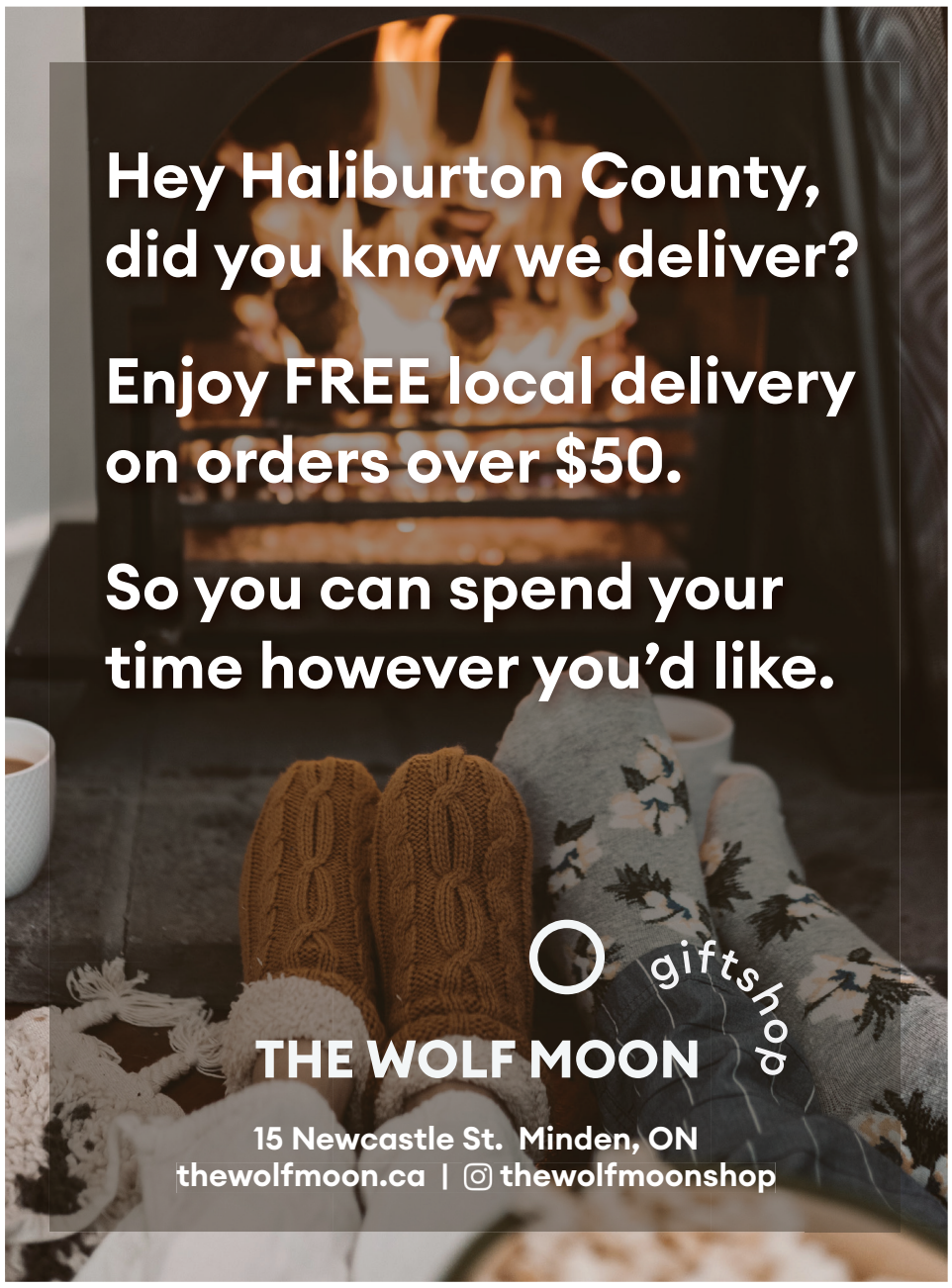
well-being through movement," said Cox, "and we wanted to be able to ensure more students could be supported to join us, which is why this bursary program is so pivotal."

The bursary was made possible from a portion of the original founding sponsors, which was specifically set aside with the intentions of offering financial support down the road.

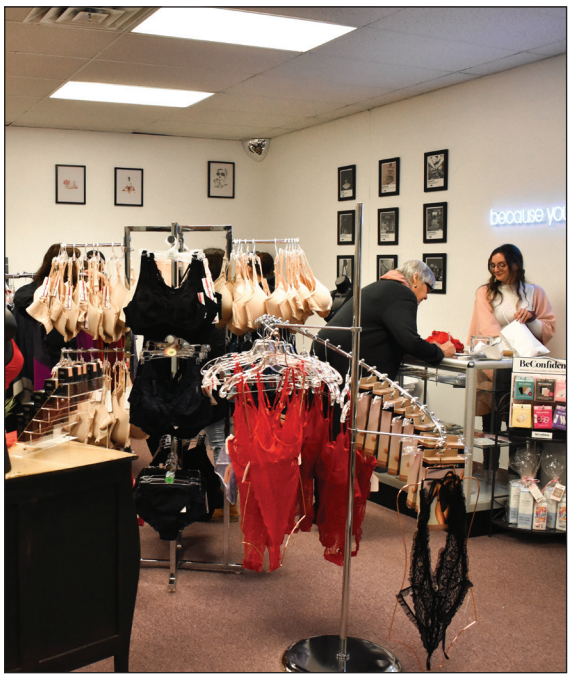
It offers $500 for a student between the ages of two and 18, and is open for anyone who has a passion for dance, but needs a little help financially to attain that dream.

To learn more about the bursary opportunity and to apply, reach out to info@skylinedancestudio.ca.

Skyline Dance Studio hosted their first recital over the weekend, with shows from Friday June 2 until Sunday June 4, 2023. The show had nearly 100 dancers participate from across the county. Pictured, competitive tap dancers take the stage for their redition of the song 5,6,7,8. /TIM YANO special to the *County Life*



All you need is love



Left, Mostly Her owners Mary and Vanessa Douglas stop for a photo during the store's Cupid's Back Valentine's event on Thursday, Feb. 8. Intuitive sessions were offered by Danielle Martin from Shapeshifter Healing, and Boshkung Brewing served up food and drinks for shoppers. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

When: Monday mornings 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion Branch 129, upper level
Admission: Yearly membership of $59
A non-profit/commercial network of weight-loss support groups, offers programs for healthy living and weight management.

Creative Collaborations

When: Tuesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church. 617 Mountain Street
Share your skills. Learn new skills. Bring your own project or work on the featured project. Beginners Welcome. Contact lynnhiggsthompson@haliburtonanglican.ca for details.

Seniors Chair Exercises

When: Thursdays, at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain St.
Safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

Cribbage and Euchre

When: Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain St.
Join us Tuesdays for cribbage and Euchre at St. George's Anglican Church. With funding from the Government of Ontario. Please contact lynnhiggsthompson@haliburtonanglican.ca for more information.

Super Cash Calendar Draws

When: Second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion
From January until October. Three tickets pulled per night. First ticket winner receives $100, second ticket $200, and third ticket $500. Winners will be posted every month on www.haliburtonlions.com. Public is welcome to attend the draws at the Lions meetings in person.

Plant Pruning Presentation

When: Tuesday March 5, 1 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Center, 55 Parkside St. Minden
Please join the Minden & District Horticultural Society for a presentation. Our guest speaker Tanya Smith will be reviewing 'Pruning'. This will be followed by the monthly society meeting. The associated Youth Garden Club will follow the meeting, running from 4 pm to 5 pm. The Youth Garden Club is for children in grade 2 or higher that want to explore their interest in all things that grow.

HHOA Wild Game Dinner

When: March 23, bar opens 5 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion, Main Hall
Tickets for the Wild Game Dinner will be available for purchase on February 15. $45.00 per person. To purchase tickets please call or visit Laurie at HHOA Tuesday and Thursday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. 705-457-9664 or call Linda at 705-457-2064. Silent auction and 50/50 draw. For more information visit www.hhoa.on.ca

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Sales Representative
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Data pulled from the Ranking Reports program from ITSO on the Lakelands Association Of Realtors Board on January 16, 2024.

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Sales Representatives/Broker*
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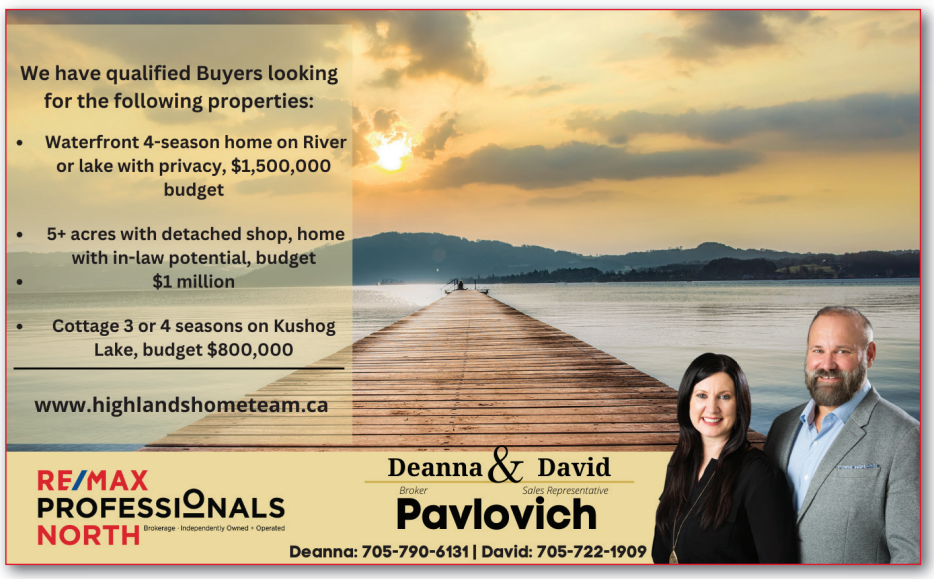
Jeff Strano 705-761-7629
Andrea Strano* 705-457-5984
Marj Parish 705-455-2211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Broker Sales Representative
Pavlovich
Deanna: 705-790-6131 | David: 705-722-1909

BEER LAKE $289,000

- Beautiful quiet lake, west of Minden
- 900 ft of shoreline, 5.9 acres
- Smooth rocky point with pines
- Gentle lot well treed, gorgeous sunsets
- Lightly developed lake with balance of shoreline crown
- 1000's of acres of crown to the west
- Rough 4x4 road to lot

Ted Vasey
Sales Representative
705-455-2034
ted@tedvasey.ca

$2,900,000

222 acres of rolling Canadian Shield• Sparkling waters of both Cedar & Otter Lakes• Great opportunity • Gorgeous natural views where wildlife abounds.• Draft Plan available for 12 multi-acre lots• Easy 2-hour drive from GTA with year round access.

Ken Barry
Broker 705-754-5280
Jacquie Barry
Realtor® 705-457-0652
www. kenbarry.com
Out Standing In Our Field

1123 WONDERLAND ROAD $849,900

- Only 5 minutes to Haliburton Village
- Kashagawigamog Lake very close by!
- 2000 sf and an attached Garage.
- Screened back porch
- Beautiful level lot
- Minutes to Golf, Boating, Fishing & Town
- Great retirement location & style.

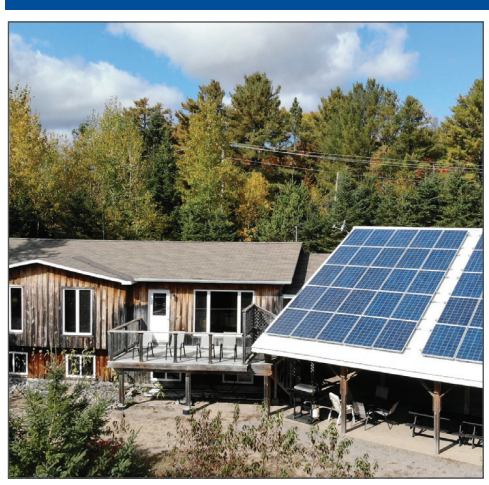
Cheryl Bolger
Sales Representative
705-306-9450
cheryl@cherylbolger.ca

GREAT COMMUNITY $598,500

Moments from town is this lovely, well-built home with attached garage. Hardwood floors gleam throughout. The spacious sunroom and screened porch both lead to a level backyard and the lower level of the house is set up nicely for guests with their own sleeping area, washroom and dining area. This listing is worth checking out.

Terry Carr & Drew Staniforth
Sales Representatives
705-935-1011
MovingTheHighlands.com

INCOME OPPORTUNITY $749,900



SOLAR PANEL INCOME GENERATING PROPERTY (on average $4,100/yr) This Rural country home is not far from the Hamlet of Gooderham in the southern area of Haliburton County. It has 1.27 acres with 425' on the highway but is totally secluded with a panoramic vista over the valley where the Irondale River flows, a spectacular elevated view!

Vince Duchene
Broker
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www.vinceduchene.ca

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MINDEN
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705-286-2911

WILBERFORCE
2260 Loop Road
705-448-2222

www.professionalsnorth.com
listings@remaxprofessionals.ca

GOODERHAM $179,900

- .17ac, mostly level in town lot
- Now a Church; zoned Institutional
- Ample parking & wheel chair access
- May require rezoning depending
- Yr-rnd acc; drilled well/hold tank
- Excellent locale; Being sold AS-IS

Rick Forget
Broker
705-457-0580
haliburtonhighlands-remax.ca

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Kirby Keks
Sales Representative
705.455.7899

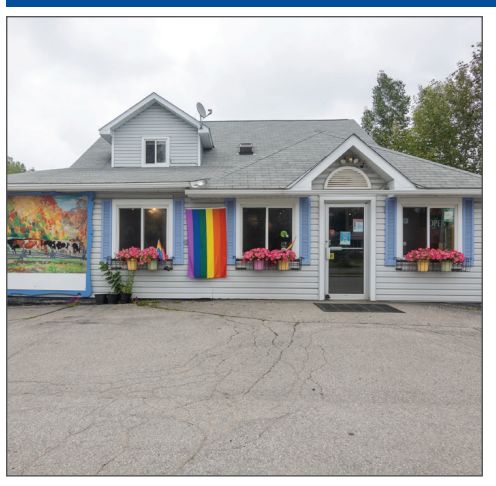
www.kirbykeks.com **homes@kirbykeks.com**

WELL MAINTAINED HOME $650,000

- 2 BR residence w/guest room
- 840 sq. ft. main level w/finished basement and double car garage
- 20 feet of shoreline on Wilbermere Lake.
- Western exposure at the lake and sandy area to swim. $650,000

Deb Lambe
Sales Representative
705-854-0103
debra.lambe@gmail.com

MOLLY'S BISTRO BAKERY & PROPERTY



- Molly is ready to retire!
- Take over this operating business and make it your own.
- Large lot, lots of parking and yard for outdoor dining.
- 2 + 2 Bedroom self contained apartment above.

Lynda Litwin
Sales Representative
705-457-8511
lynda@lyndalitwin.ca

IN TOWN HOME, MINDEN $420,000

- 4 Bedrooms, 3 bathrooms
- Large bedrooms and living areas
- Attached garage
- Zoned C4 for potential business
- Steps from main street Minden and all amenities

Kelly Mercer
Broker
705-455-7500
kelly@kelly-mercer.ca

MINDEN ACREAGE $975,000

Class B licensed pit and quarry. Total acreage 88.46 acres with 66.22 acres extractable. Mixture of flagstone, sand, gravel and granite. The pit can be closed, which gives great potential for development. Over 3300' of frontage on a Township road.

Lisa Mercer
Broker
705-457-0364
www.lisamercer.ca
lisa@lisamercer.ca

Wishing you a wonderful Family Day! Enjoy the local activities in our community!!

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email vivian@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

A curious Pine Marten, affectionately named Dean. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

A beautiful Blue Jay. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

The vent for a beaver lodge is covered in frost. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

Electronics Recycling

Dysart ratepayers can drop off electronics for recycling at Haliburton, Harcourt, Kennisis Lake, West Bay, and West Guilford Landfills during regular operating hours.

Computers & Laptops

Printers

Video gaming devices

Phones

Televisions & Monitors

Radios, Stereos including after-market vehicle stereos

Headphones

Cameras including security cameras

Success! In 2023, Dysart collected 37.09 metric tonnes (81,769 lbs) of electronics for recycling!

Video Recorders

Peripherals & Cables including charging equipment

Hard drives and other parts of technology sold separately

Delete your data
It is your responsibility to ensure personal data is permanently removed from all electronics such as computers, laptops, tablets, phones, cell phones, etc. The Municipality of Dysart et al and its electronics recycler cannot accept liability for any data that remains on electronics left at the site.

No scavenging
The Municipality receives revenue from the sale of the electronics it collects for recycling. When you scavenge electronics, it increases taxes for everyone.

Not accepted with Electronics Recycling
Microwaves, Lamps, Kettles, Coffee Makers, Vacuums, Power Tools

Municipality of Dysart et al

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Andrew Kohnen
Brewmaster

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email vivian@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

A Mourning Dove stands by the feeder. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

A Red Squirrel eats a snack. /Submitted by Yvonne Friend

Legion Events

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge every Monday, 1 p.m. Schofield Rm.
Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30 to 9 p.m. (Sept to June)
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. $500. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, starting at 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw has five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC.
Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards.
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw – tickets are $1 each available in the Clubroom.

Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome!

Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m. and Sat. 3 to 6 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Branch 624 Wilberforce Events
February 15th– February 21st

Feb. 15 - Open 2 to 6 p.m.
Feb. 16 - Wings/Jam 5 to 8 p.m.
Feb. 17 - Open 2 to 6 p.m.
- Meat Draw @ 3 p.m.
Feb. 18 to 20 - Closed
Feb. 21 - Open 2 to 6 p.m.
- Darts @ 2 p.m.

If you are planning an event our Ladies Auxiliary would be pleased to cater Please call the branch at 705-448-2221 to arrange your event.

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Home Game

TRENTON GOLDEN HAWKS VS HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Saturday, Feb. 17 - 4 p.m.

Upcoming Home Games

Muskies

Monday, Feb. 19
2 p.m.

ADMIRALS

Saturday, Feb. 24
4 p.m.

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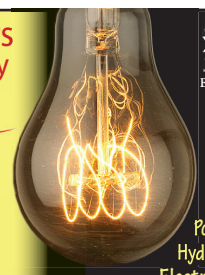

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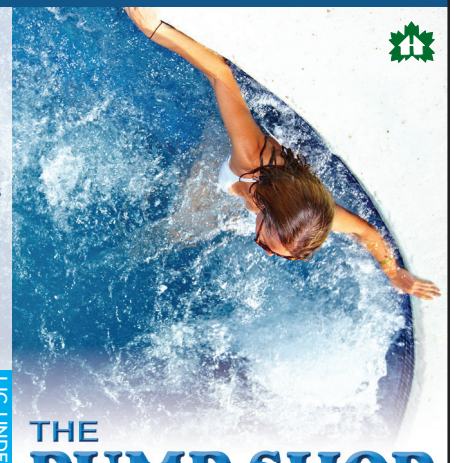

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540 COMING EVENTS

Call To Enter- The Tour De Forest summer art tour is looking for a variety of participants in both studio artists and guest artists. Please download application from haliburtontourdeforest.com. Deadline is February 16 2024. For more information contact Lori at **705-754-0444** or **tourdeforestjurying@gmail.com**

520 THANK YOU

THE MINDEN DISTRICT FUR HARVESTERS

would like to extend a sincere THANK YOU to all that attended, supported and donated to their 2024 Fur Harvesters Workshop Special Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers!

Agnew's General Store – Wilberforce
Kulmala Furs – Fenelon Falls
Barb Schofield – Wilberforce
British Empire Fuels – Bobcaygeon
Canada Candy – Cobourg
Canadian Tire – Bancroft
Canadian Heroes Foundation
Car Quest – Minden
Carly Kenny, Fur & Custom sewing - Buckhorn
Cheshers Outdoor Store – Bancroft
Coneybeare's Butcher Shop – Minden
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Esson Creek Maple - Wilberforce
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Ontario Fur Managers Federation
Outdoors Plus – Haliburton
Pharmasave – Minden
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Rory Cummings – Curve Lake
SAPS – Fur Managing Supplies – Orillia
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Thanks also for the support of The Wilberforce Legion Auxiliary, 93.5 Moose FM, 100.9 Canoe FM, Haliburton County Life, The Highlander, Bancroft This Week and the township of Highlands East

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The Haliburton County Echo and Minden Times are seeking a Reporter/Photographer to join our award-winning newspapers in the heart of Ontario's cottage country.

Responsibilities will include:
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Interested candidates should forward their resume with writing and photography samples to Jennifer McEathron
by **Friday, March 1, 2024.**
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

The Echo Haliburton County | The Times Minden Ontario | County Life

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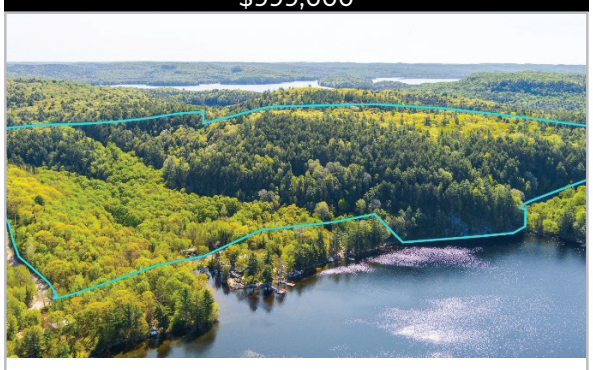
$999,000



169 ACRES | 3 X BED | 2 X BATH | SOUTHWEST EXPOSURE

MLS# 40424313

HALIBURTON LAKE
$875,000

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | TURN-KEY | MUNICIPAL ROAD

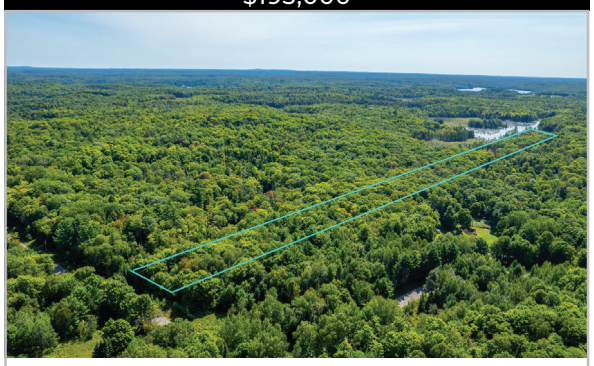
MLS# 40534333

MOUNTAIN STREET
$628,000

3 X BED | 3 X BATH | 2.3 ACRES | GREAT LOCAITION

MLS# 40529487

BETHEL ROAD
$195,000



330 FT. FRONTAGE | MUNICIPAL ROAD | 24.65 ACRES

MLS# 40476956

VICTORIA STREET
$425,000

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | 1337 SQ.FT | PRIME LOCATION

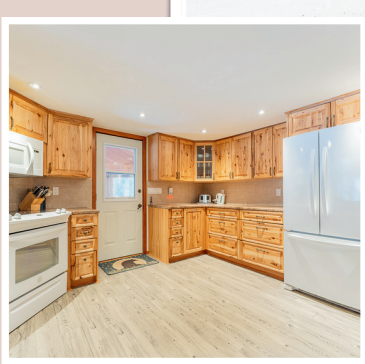
MLS# 40530312

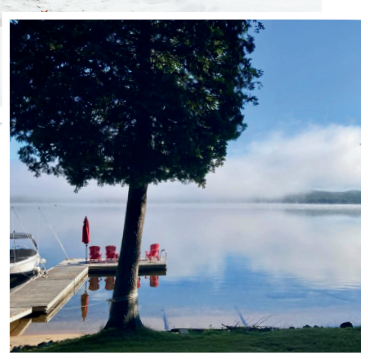
Baumgartner Realty Group's

FEATURED LISTING

1263 Hodgson Rd.

- Haliburton Lake
- Detached 2-car garage
- Level lot
- Fully winterized





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INSIDE THIS WEEK:

RESTAURANTS BUTT OUT
As restaurants give non-smokers a breath of fresh air, health unit seeks county ban

PUSHING THE ENVELOPE
Performance of Letters I Didn't Send bodes well for future of Northern Lights Pavilion

BIRD SPECIES UP
The annual Minden Christmas Bird Count yielded some fascinating sightings

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

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Canoe route rules:

Funding allows Frost Centre group to better protect environment

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

Canoeists who pull ashore at a campsite in the Frost Centre this summer may find there are more rules but the campsites will be cleaner and less likely to be sources of pollution.

With a grant from provincial government and a land use permit from Algonquin Highlands, the Haliburton Highlands Water Trails Committee is embarking on a two-year project to manage the dozens of campsites at the province's 24,000-hectare property south of Dorset.

The first step was to hire Mark Coleman as the project co-ordinator to oversee how the $200,000 from Ontario Living Legacy is spent. The committee received $50,000 for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2002 and $150,000 for the next fiscal year. On Thursday, Algonquin Highlands council gave it the authority it needs to spend the money. The land use permit agreement will be forwarded to the municipality as soon as possible, the last piece of red tape needed.

Although canoeists will continue to be able to use the campsites for free, and not have to reserve spaces, they will have to comply with new rules about how many campers are allowed per site as posted on new signs.

For its part, the committee will improve the existing rudimenta-

See **Committee** *page 13*

DARREN LUM/Echo

Winter warmth
Dakota Harris-Saxby, a John D. Hodgson Elementary School student, smiles, barely noticing the frigid weather as she slides down a playground set during the lunch hour recess. Friends Victoria Snow and Jasmin Purnell ready themselves to take a ride down the slide. The entire province has been gripped in the throngs of a cold weather snap for the last month.

Waterfront property demand heats up real estate market

SHERYL LOUCKS
Staff Reporter

A shortage of property on the Haliburton market means real estate agents have more buyers than sellers.

John Parish, a Bowes and Cocks agent, says 2002 was one of the best years in his memory for sales and activity in the Highlands. He says they are running into a shortage of "product" though and not just waterfront either.

"It's still manageable right now but it could become a problem," says Parish.

Linda Baumgartner, Re/Max agent and incoming president of the Ontario Real Estate Association, says it has been a high-dollar volume of sales and a very prosperous year. She expects the real estate market will remain healthy for 2003 as well but is predicting prices will not continue to rise in the Highlands as they have been.

She has noticed the expected demand for residential and cottage waterfront properties but noticed in 2002 a new demand for acreages as well. She has also noticed buyers coming from a bit farther south than the usual number from the Greater Toronto Area with quite a few expressing interest from the Hamilton area.

"Percentage wise we're seeing baby boomers the most but it's the last leg of the boomers. We are working with mid-30-year-olds who are looking at future retirement properties. They're buying run down cottages, with

See **Future** *page 13*

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